

MILLER FREEMAN, PUBLISHER.  
JOHN N. COBB, EDITOR.  
RUSSELL PALMER, MANAGER.

Seattle, Washington, December 14, 1914.

Address all Communications  
to Pacific Fisherman.

My dear Waldo:

Yours of the 7th instant received.

I wrote you at Washington some days ago with respect to the mushy fish in the cargo of the San Juan. Also sent you a copy of the November number. The latter contains the whole of Thompson's preliminary report on the Life history of the Halibut. To-morrow I will mail you another copy of the November number.

Mighty glad to hear that you still think married life is the only thing.

With kindest regards from all, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

*John N. Cobb.*





MILLER FREEMAN, PUBLISHER.  
JOHN N. COBB, EDITOR.  
RUSSELL PALMER, MANAGER.

Seattle, Washington, December 8, 1914.

Address all Communications  
to Pacific Fisherman.

My dear Schmitt:

Yours of November 12 received, and I finally have run to earth the captain of the San Juan, and he states that of the 110,000 pounds 50,000 pounds were mushy. You are correct in assuming that the fish dumped were mushy.

A lot of the vessels are tying up for a little while now in order to repair and refit, and also to avoid the worst of the winter season in the north. The price paid lately has been high, but the receipts were small naturally.

Haven't been able to get hold of Mary. Will get a picture as soon as I can.

Presume you are now in the East so am sending this in care of the Bureau.

All join with me in sending kindest regards to yourself and wife, with the hope that we will have the pleasure of meeting her in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

*John N. Cobb*

P.S.:--Sent the November number to you at Washington. Wedding will be in the December issue. Will send copy to you.



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# Pacific Fisherman

MILLER FREEMAN, PUBLISHER.  
JOHN N. COBB, EDITOR.  
RUSSELL PALMER, MANAGER.

Seattle, Washington, November 18, 1914.

Address all Communications  
to Pacific Fisherman.

My dear Waldo:

Replying to your letter of the 12th instant, I understand Chamberlain is now living at Palo Alto. I believe his wife is pursuing some studies at the University.

The halibut thrown away were mushy fish.

I will see the captain of the San Juan when next he is here and get the data from him.

We all send our congratulation upon your marriage, and wish you every joy possible.

Sincerely yours,

*John N. Cobb*



mmmmmmmm

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
November 12, 1914.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

As my old Mammy used to say, "if the Lord's willing, and nothing happens," I'll be married <sup>on</sup> Thursday, the nineteenth of November! I'm just about the happiest man alive!

I want ~~to~~ to thank you for that list of "trips" you sent me. I know it was a of a job, and there is but one ~~more~~ question more I'd like to ask: Can you find out from the skipper of the "San Juan" (or any one else), how many fish were dumped from their 110,000. I am considering the fish dumped as mushy; am I correct in this assumption?

Ca n you tell me where I can reach Chamberlain? Is he still at Tucson?

Give my best to the home folks, and remember me to the "girls" and Ward. I saw O'Malley while he was down here. Will you be so kind as to ask Miss Wright to give me a picture of my namesake, the "pig."

Sincerely,



# HALIBUT FROM OREGON BANKS LANDED AND SOLD AT SEATTLE.

Date:	Schooner.	Price for No.1.	No.1 fish.	No.2 fish.	Chicken halibut.	Amount dumped.
August 1	Seattle-----	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c	35,028	8,982		30,000
August 4	Alaska-----	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c	27,175	11,470		20,000
August 12	Daisy-----	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ c	22,050	5,800		12,000
August 21	America-----	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c	28,216	5,713		25,000
August 22	Decorah-----	3	28,000	2,000		Unknown.
August 24	Alaska-----	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c	53,852	3,018		12,000
August 25	Daisy-----	4c				
Sept. 5	Athena-----	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c	44,355	9,000		27,000
Sept. 7	Senator-----	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ c	21,294	6,876		15,000
Sept. 11	Panama-----	3c	35,685	9,382		22,000
Sept. 15	Omaney-----	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ c	32,221	7,804		10,000
Aug. --	Starr-----		No fish.			
	LaPaloma----		No.fish.			
Sept. 1	San Juan----		110,000			
Sept. 8	Magnolia----	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ c	25,840	2,460	2,565	10,000

= mushy fish vide Cobb letter  
Nov. 9-14

Note.--The amount dumped is merely approximate as these fish are not weighed.

The San Juan Fish & Packing Company purchased the cargoes of the Daisy (Aug.25) and the Senator (Sept.7), while it owns the San Juan & Starr. The company states the slips containing the records of these cargoes have been destroyed. *San Juan's catch is quantity reported by captain when he arrived.*

Couldn't find the date of the LaPaloma trip, but think it must have been in September.

I am not sure that this is complete as the buyers pay very little attention to where the fish come from. Should I hear of any additional will let you know.

J. N. Cobb.

101  
74000  
27,000



XXXXXXXXXXXX

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
November 3, 1914.

My dear Mr. Cobb:

I didn't realize what I was "steering" you up against when I sent you that table, and then, too, I should have asked you for the Seattle returns only, as I had secured the others myself in Newport and Portland. After writing you, Reid and Bailey furnished me with a revised list of fish landed by the "Decorah" at Portland, as follows:

May	10,	-	4,500	©	3¢
"	28,	-	13,700	©	4¢
June	16,	-	22,800	©	3¢
July	6,	-	32,500	©	3½¢
"	22,	-	21,000	©	5½¢

I certainly appreciate the efforts you are making in getting the data on mushy fish. This point doesn't appear in literature, so far as I can discover, and it seems as though it may show some interesting things. I am also glad that you have been able to add those extra trips, as they will tend to indicate the length of the period over which the mushiness of the "fish" extends.

Owing to the amount of routine I have run up against, things are progressing a little more slowly than I had counted on. Consequently I have requested transfer to Washington, and the Bureau has asked the Secretary to authorize it. If granted, I leave the day after Thanksgiving.



XXXXXXXXXX

-2-

I hope to be one of the "unfortunates" by the time I leave.

My very best to all the home folks,

Sincerely,



HENRY O'MALLEY, Vice President  
Seattle, Wash.

TREVOR KINCAID, Vice President  
Seattle, Wash.

JOHN N. COBB, Secretary  
500 Mutual Life Bldg.  
Seattle, Wash.

RUSSELL PALMER, Treasurer  
Seattle, Wash.

CARL WESTERFELD, President  
San Francisco, Cal.

# PACIFIC FISHERIES SOCIETY

ORGANIZED 1914

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING  
TO BE HELD AT  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
(Date to be announced later)

## Executive Committee

BARTON WARREN EVERMANN  
San Francisco, California  
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CHARLES FREDERICK HOLDER  
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Seattle, Washington  
M. J. KINNEY,  
Portland, Oregon  
WARD T. BOWER  
Seattle, Washington  
M. D. BALDWIN  
Kalispell, Montana

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 29, 1914.

My dear Waldo:

Your letter of the 12th instant was received all right, and would have been answered sooner were it not for the fact that I am finding it a little more tedious job getting the data you wanted than I had figured upon. I am still engaged in digging it up but thought best to let you know of the delay. I am unable to do anything for you with respect to the fish sold at Portland and Newport. You could probably get this data better than I could by writing to those places. I am carrying on your table from where you left off until the present date, and so far have added about nine trips to it. The only way to get most of this data <sup>especially the mushy fish,</sup> is from the captains themselves, and just now they are coming in very unfrequently owing to the shortage of bait. Will be able to send you the corrected list the early part of next week.

Showed your letter to the family and they all join in best wishes to you and your fiancée.

Will write more fully next week.

Sincerely yours,

*John N. Cobb,*



Cap. Stan  
Sire

Sir A

Material

Unit.

Sheet 11 of 14  
Lith.

Lin. card

Siding cover



U. S. S. ALBATROSS,

Sausalito, Calif.,

Oct. 12, 1914.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

For all you have heard from me, we have had the same fate as the "Francis H. Legget".

Our leave-taking was very abrupt, I know, and, though I was as anxious as any to get back to "Califrisco", I am downright sorry we didn't stay over just that extra night to make at least the right kind of farewe/all.

Please convey my apologies to Mrs. Cobb, and to her sister. I have told Alvina about all of you, and I do hope we can meet some day. That reminds me of the Indian-rugs. As much as I want them, I'm afraid we shall have to forego that pleasure at present. She has an ebony-cased grand, and tells me she must have plain-colored rugs to match it. So, as is proper with the "henpecked", I'm voting plain rugs, too. But I shall not forget your sister-in-law's kind offer, as I doubtless shall enlist her kind offices in the not-distant future.

We got track of the "doings" of the "Zillah May". She made two trips, financed by the W. A. Hammond Lumber Co. -- why, I don't know. On the first trip, she lost her gear and was forced to return to Frisco to refit. On the second, the one I previously wrote you about, her catch was less than 6000 lbs. of halibut, which in the smash-up on the beach was spoiled by the bursting of an oil-tank



and thrown overboard. As to the proportion of halibut to the other fish taken with the net, I was unable to get any information. The Hammond people gave up the proposition as a bad job, and consequently the "Zillah May" is again in your neighborhood.

I have enclosed a table of fish taken from the Oregon banks, so far as I have been able to get the data together. Will you please revise, correct if necessary, and extend it so as to include all of the September returns, and those of October if there are any as yet?

There is one point for which I am most desirous of securing figures, and that is, the amount of mushy and of good fish comprising the total catches brought in by each vessel. I have, as you will see, those for August of the "Decorah" and of the "Maisy". This, to me, is quite important, as it may have something to do with the spawning-habits of halibut, and I wish to include it in my report.

Yes, I'm grubbing away at that and my chart, and by the end of the month hope to have there will be of it completed.

Don't ask me about the tuna-investigation; for, with the Bureau's usual foresight, kindness, and interest in the ship, we have heard nothing more from them than what you told us.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. N. Cobb,  
C/o The Pacific Fisherman,  
500 Mutual Life Bldg.,  
Seattle, Wash.



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# Pacific Fisherman

MILLER FREEMAN, PUBLISHER.  
JOHN N. COBB, EDITOR.  
RUSSELL PALMER, MANAGER.

Seattle, Washington, August 14, 1914.

Address all Communications  
to Pacific Fisherman.

My dear Waldo:

Yours of August 6 received, and I have written to San Francisco in an endeavor to secure the information you wish with respect to the Zillah May. I see by the papers that she struck on Point Arena and has been towed into S.F. for repairs. She lost her rudder.

I hear the Albatross is expected here about the 21st. Maybe she will arrive then and maybe she wont. Who can tell?

Tongue and Hatton have been released on bail and I understand are on their way to San Francisco. Will likely be tried at Valdez this fall.

The ladies in our neighborhood inquire about you and Rankin very frequently, and wish that you were here now to enjoy the good dry weather.

I hope you will have better weather the rest of your stay and be able to accomplish something.

Mrs. Cobb and Genevieve join with me in sending regards to Rankin and yourself.

Sincerely yours,

John N. Cobb.



Newport, Ore.,

Aug. 6, 1914.

Mr. John N. Cobb,  
C/o The Pacific Fisherman,  
500 Mutual Life Bldg.,  
Seattle, Wash.

My dear Mr. Cobb:

Yesterday we spoke the "Zillah May", Endreson Bros., about six miles off Yaquina Light. This is her second trip, and this, as was the first, will be landed at San Francisco.

She is equipped with a 96-foot otter-trawl, and is using that as her sole means of catching fish.

Will you please be so kind as to ascertain for me the kind and the quantity of fish she landed, and the prices brought? I should appreciate greatly any information regarding any further trips the "Zillah May" may land in "Frisco".

We have been able to fish only ~~xxx~~ about one-half the time, owing to the weather. They seem to have as much of that as of "climate" here. I have heard that the "Albatross" is not expected back before the fifteenth, and shall remain here until I hear from her.

My best regards to Mrs. Cobb, Genevieve, and yourself. Please give my respects to Mr. Freeman and Russell Palmer.

Sincerely,



## ACCOUNT SALES

Date

Rendered by **Pacific Coast Fisherman's Association**

PIER 8, SEATTLE, WASH.

Account Sales of ..... Received ..... via .....

Sold to ..... for account of .....

Sale No. .... Box Mark ..... By *Cuba*

DATE	NO. OF BOXES	VARIETY	WEIGHT	PRICE	AMOUNT	TOTALS
Aug 21		America	34	3 1/4	25	59.00
Sept 5		Athena	54	3 1/2	27	81
Aug 9		Alaska	39	3	20	59
24		"	57	3 3/4	25	82
June 18		Daisy	39	3	5	44
Aug 12		"	28	4 3/4	12	40
Sept 11		Panama	46	3	22	68
Aug 20		Lordenshold	70	3 1/4	15	85
July 4		Washington	29	3	20	49
(49)						

Remarks:

*Those Culls were murky**You have the Decatur trips all right.*

*Buscoll I am returning this list to you. Will you please make sure of the "Washington" trip you have down for July 4. Was that made before Carol went to Seattle? it's a pretty big trip for that early in the season, wasn't it made in Aug. or Sept.*

*Please let me know as soon as possible but*



don't make an extra trip to Seattle,  
write to somebody at the "Union".

Yes I'm pretty busy and its hard to  
leave home to go to work. But we all  
have to do it if we want to be happy  
married men.

Lots of good wishes

Waldo Schmitt,

U.S. Bureau of Fisheries  
Washington, D.C.



DRISCOLL'S REPORT.

Information obtained by him, regarding halibut-fishing off Ore. and Wash.

Unless otherwise stated the "fish" mentioned are halibut.

June 17, 1914.

"Orobell", Capt. James Reeder, caught 25 fish averaging 20lbs; a very uneven run; some of the fish as small as 6 lbs., which looks as though there were not many where these were caught. The small ones sold to the market @ 8¢; retailed for 12½¢.

June 18, 1914.

"Orobell", Capt. Reeder, caught 4 halibut averaging 15 lbs., 2 red-fish, 2 "ling-cod (cultus-cod)", seven (7) miles from the bar; there was a strong N-W wind, with strong tides.

I met Mr. Wilson, a fisherman; he said that fish were not very plentiful; crabs were selling @ 80¢ the dozen, and would sell @ \$1.00 later; clams were quoted at 15¢ the basket. Ling-cod were very plentiful.

\* \* \*

The "Pilgrim", Capt. Chambers, got 1 halibut, 2 red-cod, 2 ling-cod, 8 miles off-shore --- strong current; Capt. Chambers said that he had two window-weights, about 8 lbs. each, but could not hold bottom.

\* \* \*

Mr. Sykes informed me, that he got 40 fish, 25 miles off-shore, in 200 fathoms of water.

\* \* \*

The following information was obtained from Capt. Chambers, an old-time fisherman: The "Pilgrim" is ready to go out today (June 18), but there is a hard blow from the N-W. The "Pilgrim" can be procured for \$10.00 per diem. Fish are not plentiful now, but later on they will



bunch-up, and many can be caught when they strike <sup>in</sup> in August; they average 50 lbs. There are no large banks, as has been reported; but there is one fishing-spot 15 miles SWxS from the bar, and another 16 miles W.

\* \* \*

Interview with Mr. Maiden, manager of the cold-storage plant: The building itself is about 30x30 feet; the sharp-freezing room is about 10x14 feet, with a capacity of perhaps 6000 lbs; the cold-storage room is 15x15x12 feet; a Fairbanks-Morse gas-engine of 15 H. P. has been installed.

Mr. Maiden contemplates buying the Daisy for \$5000.00; the boat has not done much in deep water, but he thought she might do well, with a good man in command.

Boats can get in and out of the harbor without any trouble, during six months of the year, *but really any kind of bad weather makes the bar impassable.*

During the summer, the fish are inside, in the shoal-water, and as many as 70 in one day have been caught with hand-lines.

\* \* \*

The "Ollie S.", Captain Carner, will be ready in about ten days; Capt. Carner takes out parties, for which he charges at the rate of \$1.00 per diem for each person. He is considered a good fisherman, but in my opinion he does not know the least thing about the business; this makes no difference, however, as there are not fish enough to supply the local market.

\* \* \*

*Bandon?*  
The "Bender" is a steam schooner, drawing 14 feet; capacity 500,000 feet of lumber.



Portland?

Captain Voeth, of Portland, is part-owner of the "Decorah"; from him was obtained a blue-print of his charted soundings off Newport.

The "Decorah" had 2200 lbs. of fish, which sold for  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ ; these same fish were quoted @ 12¢ retail. The crew received a net share of \$39.00 each.

These are very good fish, averaging 15 lbs; I note <sup>also</sup> a very inferior fish for sale here, 3 lbs. for 25¢ --- they may be culls. (sent from Seattle)

\* \* \*

James Bonset, a member of the crew of the "Decorah", told me, that there are now some fish in-shore, six or eight miles off Yaquina-Head light; they got 8000 <sup>lbs.</sup> one day, but he did not believe that there are enough fish there to enable a boat to make the work pay; no bank was <sup>other than</sup> found outside of Hecata Bank.

\* \* \*

TILLAMOOK, Wash., June 22, 1914.

Mr. Chase, of W. O. Chase & Son, informed me, that there are no fish caught out of Tillamook at present; at one time there was a boat (5 men) which took 17 fish weighing from 20 to 70 pounds; the boat was lost, and no further attempt at halibut-fishing has been made. Boats cannot go up the river, and the cost of shipping fish to Portland is prohibitive.

Salmon are taken here, and sixty boats are engaged in the fishery; the common type is the "Columbia-river boat", with a 4 H. P. gas-engine; there are two men to each boat, with 120 fathoms of net, 18 meshes deep (meshes  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ").

A man named Henderson is trying to start a cold-storage plant, a short distance from Tillamook; it is surmized, by residents of Tillamook, that this is merely for speculative purposes; rumor has it, that



Henderson is bringing two boats down from Seattle.

\* \* \*

Mr. F. Small owns and operates the ice-plant, which makes something like five tons a day; the plant is run by a gas-engine of 15 H. P.

Mr. Small owns sixteen boats that do very well; these fish throughout eight months of the year, but do not get much in winter. The men are required to furnish their own nets; they sell their catch to Small.

\* \* \*

Mr. I. Bibby, manager of the Tillamook Clam Market, informed me, that he uses 500 lbs. of fish each week; his fish are shipped from Portland, and he has never heard of any halibut being caught in Tillamook. He has a good business in clams and crabs, although he is about to close out.

-----

Aberdeen, Wash.

June 24.

The "Zilla May", Capt. ~~E~~nderson, is fitting for a beam-trawl, and putting in some heavy winch gear for lifting the net; she will be ready in about a week. The last two trips were north of Gray's Harbor.

Capt. ~~E~~nderson expects to do well, as he has his own market, and can handle a variety of fish -- he sells a quantity in the logging-camps; later, he expects to go to San Francisco with some of his fish. He intends to go to the southward to operate the beam-trawl; if it proves a success, he will <sup>for</sup> ~~engage~~ his other boat <sup>with one</sup> ~~in it~~.



Astoria, Washington.

Mr. Colston, the man who keeps the fish-market, says he does not handle halibut to any extent; what he gets is shipped from Portland. The catch landed by the "Decorah" was bought by Hegan, who is said to have lost on the deal, since there is little demand for them here. The fishermen know very little concerning halibut --- the principal fish is salmon.

The run of salmon this year was small, averaging eight tons to the boat; the price paid at the cannery is six cents for fish under 25 lbs., seven and one-half cents for those over that weight.

The cannery owns most of the boats, which fish only during the tide and at that time work day and night. The men receive 60% of the catch, but they are required to sell to the cannery.



Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>

Centralia

Dear Schmitt

Just home from  
Seattle. I am sending  
a partial list of the  
tripe as it is hard  
to get all from the  
Oregon coast, owing to  
the fact fishermen do  
not report when they  
get the fish as the  
buyers are on the  
look out for fish  
coming from that



ground. The Daisy was  
the last boat on the  
Oregon coast as far  
as we know. she got  
thirty nine thousand  
and sold in San Francisco  
at the Western Fish Co.  
for two cents per pound  
and two third thence  
but mostly. so you  
see Schmitt it is  
hard to determine  
how many fish are  
caught on the Oregon  
coast as many times



They make a quick trip  
and report collecting  
them off Cape Flattery  
on the West coast of  
Vancouver Island and  
there we receive a better  
cull. There is a place  
Sydney Inlet on the  
West coast of Vancouver  
Island where we fish  
every Fall. seventy  
miles from Cape Flattery  
twenty one miles off  
the coast of Vancouver Island  
where there has been



many caught the first  
two months and are  
the same run of fish  
caught off Newport.  
and about great percent  
mushy as we found  
off Newport. This  
is the first time  
they were found mushy.  
What is at Sydney Inlet.  
So you see there is  
much to study  
about them. I am  
sending a report from  
the Pacific Fishery that  
may be of help to you.



Excluded the point of  
Main tract. But there is  
another tract that I think  
is as good perhaps better  
that you could get  
more reasonable to  
hire or buy The Yee  
you met her Captain  
with me Daniels.  
They have both made  
several trips recently  
even showing you  
hundred dollars in  
two months. Fish  
bought at Jackson.



MMMMMMM

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
November 12, 1914.

Dear Driscoll:

Here's to luck with that list of trips; its no sinch,  
I know.

I leave for Washington the night of Thanksgiving, so any  
information you have for me you had better best address to me  
at the Bureau of Fisheries, Washington, D.C., that is after  
November 23rd.

The Chief Clerk of the Bureau was out here on a visit  
and ~~detained~~ I talked "schooner" to him, and he was very much  
interested.

My best from me and my best to you, and your best.

Sincerely,



14

Centralia Oct 26<sup>th</sup>

My Dear Schmitt

Rec your letter  
but was away the  
time it got there.  
In regard to musky  
fish you may get  
them at any time  
in the year. The Star  
on the second last  
trip had two hundred  
and forty thousand  
of which seventy  
thousand were taken  
out musky; from  
Port Lock Bank.



I saw Mr. Hoyt  
manager of the Progress  
while out Secolt and  
he promised to send  
a full account of the  
fact so far. I have  
not heard from him  
but think they may  
be waiting until  
Wess gets home  
and then we  
can cross. The  
Yee was in again  
with eighty thousand  
from the north



Now that report you  
sent me for correction  
I will take to  
Seattle in order  
to get it accurate.  
The maning tube  
which you sent I  
gave Sam as he  
was just going  
out on the Steer  
three days ago. I  
sent Berk and Dick  
they are with Carroll  
in the Sam-fose, had  
eighteen thousand  
pounds of fish



receiving eight and  
three quarters cents.

Capt. Pursey is on  
the Decorah, they had  
twenty eight thousand  
pounds. For which  
they all received  
the same price.

All the boats are  
fishing at Cape St.  
James. As far as  
we know there  
are not any boats  
off New York or if  
they are keeping  
it quiet.



I saw Carroll and  
settled with him.  
Everything O. K.  
Rank & Dick  
washed to be  
reminded to you  
& Rankin. Kindly  
remember me to  
the Captain and Mr  
Jesse Edward  
Rankin. Pleasant  
love to yourself  
from  
E. Driscoll

I will visit again  
soon.



U. S. S. ALBATROSS,

Sanbalito, Calif.,

Oct. 12, 1914.

Mr. Edward Driscoll,

R. D. Box 58,

Centralia, Wash.

Dear Driscoll:

Thanks for the information you sent me, particularly that concerning the mushy fish. They are the ones I am trying to get a line on now.

It's interesting to note, that mushy fish are coming in from Alaska at the same time of the year as from Newport. What time of the year do you usually get mushy fish, and for how long a time? There is another point I should like to know about, as soon as you hear of it: when halibut-spawn has been found; that is, as soon as you hear that anybody has seen any this year.

I have enclosed a list of the trips I have a record of from off the Oregon banks; will you go over it, and make the corrections necessary, if any? Also see if I have the correct amount of "good" fish left after the mushy ones were thrown out. How many mushy ones did the "Alaska" have on her first trip down there? Then, too, since I made up my list, I suppose the "San Juan" came in, and the "Liberty", also. Didn't the "Daisy" make another trip, and with what result?



And now may I ask one favor of you? If you get the chance, will you cut open some of the intestines of halibut, all the way down, and look for tape-worms? We never looked far enough down. Don't go to too much trouble-- but if you make a trip, before the offal is cast over the side it might be possible to slit a few open. I am sending you a bottle with alcohol in a mailing-tube, in which to put the tape-worms if you find any; 2 or 3 worms will be sufficient.

Yes, I am glad to hear about the "Trogross". If you can get a couple of blue-prints, so much the better. Tell Mr. Heath that I promise not to let the Bureau make use of them. I shall keep them in my possession until, and even when, I am in Washington. I don't know just when I'm going East, but it will be in December. When I get to the Bureau, I shall put the whole proposition up to them in the strongest kind of way.

Did you get everything straightened up with Carroll?

The Captain, Rankin and I send our best regards, and here's to luck, once more.

Sincerely,



Centralia, Washington,  
September 24, 1914.

My dear Schmitt:-

Received your letter and checks and thank you very much. Was pleased to hear you arrived safely after so stormy trip. I was in Seattle four days ago and talked with Mike Marr. He only had ninety thousand flitches and thirty thousand fresh halibut, for which he received five and one half cents, and seven cents for the flitches. There were three boats in at the time. Malola had thirty thousand from Goose Island ground; the America with twelve thousand from Cape Scott. I am going to Seattle in a few days. I will find out the doings and write you fully. Also expect to get all the dope on Marr's boat, the least she may be sold for or hired, the dimensions and so on, perhaps a blue print. The Tyee Captain Daniels was in and had fifty thousand, five and one half cents, from Port-Lock bank. Had twenty thousand thrown out, mushy. The Daisy being the only boat off Newport this trip. She was reported going in Portland loaded. Will let you know later.

Kindly remember me to Capt. Potterfield and our friend Rankin. That you may spend many happy days this winter with your heart's desire is the sincere wish of your friend,

*Edw. Driscoll*

P.S. I will forward the men's checks.



RECEIVED

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
September 17, 1914.

Mr. Edward Driscoll,  
R. F. D. Box 58,  
Centralia, Wash.

My dear Driscoll:

I have just received yours and the mens' salary checks for the July salaries, and not having the several addresses I am asking you to mail them their checks. For that purpose six franked envelopes are enclosed.

You had better <sup>see Carroll</sup> ~~send~~ roll in person, so that you can make what arrangements you think best. Tell him I asked you to do this for me, as I did not know where to reach him.

We had a very foggy trip south, and are thanking our lucky stars that we are in. Rather be here than Heaven.

Regarding the catches brought into Seattle from off Newport, can you get me a complete list of all the schooners bring in, in trips from there, the date, the amount of fish caught by each, the price received per lb. and the number of mushy fish. If you could get the information in the form of a table, as for example:

Date	Name of boat	Amount of catch lbs	Price received	Amount of mushy fish



-2-

I would also like to get the date of "Alfie" Edwards trip down there in the "Weeding Bros", a couple of years ago.

I just received the enclosed note and money order from Carroll. The letter I have endorsed over to you. I think that squares the matter; if not, let me know. I think he owes you about 75 cents for meals he took outside of the Abbey about the time we changed places.

Just at present I am getting my chart lined up, and next week I start on my report.

With the best wishes,

Sincerely,

Naturalist.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED.

Lieutenant, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.



Mar. 28, 1914.

Dr. Waldo S. Schmitt,  
Naturalist,  
U.S.F.S. Albatross,  
Sausalito, Cal.

Dear Sir:

I have just received your letter dated the 17th and carefully note what you say. I am still endeavoring to secure satisfactory fishermen and, with the extra leeway you give in the way of remuneration, I will certainly be able to get men of more experience.

Regarding gear, my suggestion is that you purchase enough material for 12 new 8 line skates. The cost of each skate would be approximately \$15.00 to \$17.00 each. The fishermen would rig up the skates on board the vessel themselves. Besides this we should have 12 anchors, 10 coils of buoyline, 6 balls of twine for gangine, 10 buoy kegs and one gallon of pine tar. There will probably be a few other small items required, but I can tell better about this after going over the supplies you have on the vessel. All of the above gear can be procured here at a minute's notice, the dealers keeping plenty of stock on hand.

Regarding bait, I can secure this of first class quality, newly salted, for \$4.50 per barrel.

Regarding the question of steam line haulers. I have been looking into this somewhat myself but have not been able to get very much information on the subject. I have asked Mr. Lee of Lee & Brinton to write you more fully on the subject as they are also investigating on their own account.

Thanks for the blank envelopes, which I will use in communicating with you.

Yours respectfully,

Edward Hinckell



U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
Mar. 26, 1914.

Mr. Edward Driscoll,  
512 Twenty-second Ave. South,  
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Sir:

I am sending you herewith a copy of the instructions regarding our halibut-investigations, as furnished me by the Bureau. Of course you know these instructions are for our own use, and are not supposed to be made public.

You will see that they are of a very general nature, but this is due to the fact, that there is but very little information extant regarding the banks we are to fish.

Very truly yours,

Naturalist.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED.

Lieut.-Commander, U. S. N.,  
Commanding.



XXXXXX

U. S. F. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, California,  
March 17, 1914.

Mr. Edward Driscoll,

512 Twenty-second Ave. South,

Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir:

*on program is*  
Unless altered by unforeseen circumstances, we shall arrive at Seattle on April 17th.

At your discretion you may pay as high as \$3.00 per day for fishermen. We wish thoroughly reliable and competent men. These men will take orders from you, and you will have the authority to discharge any of them on our return to port, should their conduct be such as to render their presence undesirable on board. Regarding the matter of bringing liquor aboard, you might inform the fishermen that this is contrary to our regulations. Quite a bit of trouble was occasioned on this score by one fisherman employed on the 1911 cruise. We had one very good fisherman aboard on that cruise. All that I know about him is that his name was Ellis, and that we shipped him at Seattle.

The gear doubtless will have to be bought new, as you suggest. Our gear, as far as I can tell, is in pretty good shape, but it was bought second-hand in 1911, at \$7.00 the skate. The line and hooks were separated and stored separately at the conclusion of that cruise.



XXXXXXXXXX

-2-

Will you submit figures as to the cost of the 12 skates you recommend <sup>we buy</sup> ~~bought~~, together with anchors, buoy lines, etc. We will be in Seattle a week, and it would be desirable to have you look over our present stock of lines. Cannot arrangements be made whereby we could buy gear at short notice, should we need it? At any rate, if you will send on the cost of the gear you recommend, I will authorize you to buy as much as I think advisable, until we get to Seattle.

With regard to bait, if salt herring can still be had for \$4.50 per barrel, you may negotiate for as many as 20 barrels, to be paid for on delivery. I think it would be advisable not to order more than <sup>enough</sup> ~~that~~ for the first month's work, as we will put into Seattle about once a month. But should there be any shortage of bait, or similar difficulty in securing it, you might order bait not to exceed the sum of \$90.00 at present.

There is one other matter I think might well be looked into, - the subject of steam line haulers. In March number of the "Pacific Fisherman", there is an article figuring such a piece of apparatus. Can such be secured in Seattle, in what time, and at what price? As this seems to be the coming method of fishing, we <sup>may</sup> ~~might~~ try it out.

Owing to the fact that you may have to spend considerable time in looking up these various matters, I shall



~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

-3-

endeavor to make arrangements to date your appointment a week earlier.

Regarding this matter I shall write you further.

Truly yours,

~~Handwritten signature~~  
Naturalist.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED.

Lieut.-Commander, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.



Mar. 11, 1914.

Waldro L. Schmitt, Esq.

Naturalist,

U.S. F. S. Albatross,

Sausalito, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I am just in receipt of your letter dated February 28th and am very pleased to note that my application has been accepted. I will hold myself in readiness to join the vessel April 15 and, in the meantime, will be glad to attend to any other matters that you may wish looked after at this end.

I note carefully the work that has been laid out and have figured out carefully what would be necessary to make the investigation a success.

Regarding men. I have made considerable inquiries but have not yet been able to secure men, whom I consider competent, who would be willing to work for the wages offered, namely; \$60.00 per month. I will write you more fully on this subject at a later date. However, in the meantime, would like you to advise me if you would be willing to pay a little more, even as high as \$75.00 providing I could secure better men.

Regarding the gear, I believe it would be necessary to order approximately 12 new skates, (which would equal 6 to each dory) complete, including the anchor or buoy line. I am afraid that the old gear which you have on hand will not be serviceable. This deteriorates very quickly and especially if the hooks have been left in proximity to the lines, the rust will have spoiled same completely. Even if the hooks have been separated, the chances are that it is not serviceable enough to warrant depending on it very much.

Regarding bait, we should take a considerable amount of salt herring with us. After we have commenced fishing we can use a great deal of what we catch, such as cod and other kinds of fish that you would not wish to keep. In case of stormy weather we could fall back on the herring. The scrap fish which we are liable to catch in considerable quantities make very good bait and can mostly all be used up for this purpose.



-2-

W.L.S.

Trusting this will give you the information  
desired and awaiting your further favors, I am,

Respectfully,

*Edward L. L. L.*



~~XXXXXX~~

U. S. F. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,

Sept. 28 - 1914

Mr. Edward Driscoll,  
Ave.  
512 Twenty-second South,  
Seattle, Wash.

You are hereby employed for the position mentioned in my letter of January 19, at a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month, beginning April 15, and ending June 30, 1914. This latter date marks the end of our fiscal year, but there is practically no doubt but that the cruise will last six months and that your services will be required throughout the entire period.

We expect to be in Seattle about April 15, but I shall advise you further regarding the exact date of our ~~xxx~~ arrival. The date of your employment holds irrespective of any delays in our present program.

We are to investigate the possibilities of certain halibut banks reported off the coast of Washington and Oregon, from the mouth of the Columbia south to Hecla Head on Coos Bay. It will be our endeavor to determine the yield of these banks by fishing them for the better part of one season.

For this purpose you will secure the services of four practical halibut fishermen, who will be in your charge and under your direction. Their employment would



~~XXXXXXXX~~

-2-

date with our arrival at Seattle. At what rate of pay can you get thoroughly competent men? You thought they might be had for about \$60.00 per month. This was the rate we paid in 1911. Their subsistence will be furnished and will be the regular Navy ration.

Will you submit an estimate of the amount of gear you consider necessary for the period from April 15-June 30, counting on the four fishermen as the active workers, though we may be able to work in several of the sailors on board to good advantage.

We have on board, at present, four (4) dories complete with oars, rollers and gurdies, about 8 skates of line with sufficient hooks and anchor lines, 6 kegs, and 3 stock anchors. This equipment will need considerable supplementing.

Regarding the matter of bait, on our last cruise we used salt herring. Will it be necessary to take enough of this on board for the first several months, or can fresh bait be relied upon? Do such fish as are ordinarily discarded serve as good bait?

We wish to go into this survey of the fishing banks in a strictly commercial manner, and in accordance with



~~XXXXXX~~

-5-

the best practices of the halibut fishermen.

Respectfully,

Naturalist.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED.

Lieutenant-Commander, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.



#512 Twenty-second Ave. South,

Seattle, Wash.

Jan. 31, 1914.

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt,

U. S. S. Albatross,

Navy Yard, Mare Island, Cal.

Dear sir;--

I have your favor of the 19th inst. and in reply would state that my experience in Halibut Fishing dates from 1888 to the present time. Eighteen years of which I was engaged on the Atlantic Coast, and during the past seven years I have fished all around Alaska, last Season being as far North as Prince William Sound where we found plenty of fish.

I know the Halibut Fishing business thoroughly but would state that I am not familiar with the Oregon Coast as I have never done any fishing in these waters.

Regarding salary would state that I would want One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per Month and a month's notice would give me plenty of time to get ready to leave. In regards to the Four halibut fishermen I believe that I could furnish these at \$60.00 per month.

Hoping that you will give this letter due consideration and to hear favorably from you at your earliest convenience, I am,

Yours truly,

Edward Driscoll

JFS



~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Navy Yard, Mare Island, Calif.,  
January 19, 1914.

Mr. Edward Driscoll,

C/o Lee & Brinton,

22-23 Colman Bldg., Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir:

Doubtless you have been informed by Mr. Harold Lee that we are looking for a man of some experience in halibut fishing and thoroughly familiar with the methods employed, a "consulting expert", as it were. He would be expected to secure several, not to exceed four, practical halibut fishermen, oversee and direct their operations and be responsible for their conduct while on board. A separate stateroom would be furnished and subsistence provided for him with the wardroom mess by the Bureau of Fisheries.

The fishermen would have quarters furnished free, as well as subsistence, which would be regular Navy Ration#. For what daily rate of pay could you secure fishermen? In 1911, we had four, whom we paid at the rate of \$2.00 per day.

Employment could not be guaranteed beyond June 30, though it is probable that it will <sup>be for a longer period.</sup> ~~longer continued~~, and will doubtless begin April first.

May I ask what your experience <sup>has</sup> been with regard to halibut fishing, and whether you rate as a pilot. <sup>a not</sup> What notice will you need, should you be employed by us, and what



~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

-2-

rate of pay will you expect, in view of the fact that you will be put to no expense while on board?

The work which we will be engaged upon will be an investigation of certain reported halibut banks off the coast of Washington and Oregon.

Truly yours,

Naturalist.

Approved and Forwarded.

Lieutenant, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.



RECEIVED

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
November 3, 1914.

Dr. Trevor Kincaid,

Dept. Zoology,

University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

My dear Dr. Kincaid:

Could I trouble you to forward me the Massachusetts Oyster Report I left with you about the time of our Olympia trip. And may I ask, too, if you have identified the material taken in connection with our halibut survey. I expect to leave for the East about November twenty-sixth, and should like to have the identification before I go.

When you send the specimens back please return them by Wells Fargo Express collect.

Sincerely

Naturalist.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED.

Lieutenant, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.



RECEIVED

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Seattle, Wash.,  
September 9, 1914.

Dr. Trevor Kincaid,

University of Washington, D

Seattle, Wash.

Dear Dr. Kincaid:

Will you please be so kind as to identify the invertebrates I am sending you today. They are a part of our collections in connection with our survey off the coast of Oregon, and I am very desirous of including the specific names in my final report.

Owing to our short, two hour, stay in Seattle, I am unable to consult your convenience in this matter, and have taken the liberty of sending them first and explaining afterward.

If you cannot find the time to work over the material, please ship them to me at Sausalito, California, C/o the ALBATROSS, express collect.

The specimens comprise:

4 star fishes  
5 sea anemones  
1 scallop  
Several pennatulids  
Several worms taken with eggs  
(Do you know what eggs these are?)

Trusting this will not be too great an imposition,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.

Naturalist.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

U. S. S. ALBATROSS,  
Sausalito, Calif.,  
November 3, 1914.

Dr. J. Playfair McMurrich,

Dept. of Anatomy,

University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Dear Sir:

I was pleased to receive a copy of your paper on the "Scale Markings of the Halibut" and thank you most sincerely for the same. It is just what I have been looking for. Under separate cover I am sending you a paper, which, though I played a most humble part in assisting in the compilation of data, I am glad to send you.

Sincerely,

Naturalist.



U. S. S. ALBATROSS,

Sausalito, Calif.,

Oct. 12, 1914.

Dr. J. T. McMurrich,

Dept. of Anatomy,

University of Toronto,

Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir:

You have published a paper dealing with the age of fishes, based on a study of the scales.

May I ask you to be so kind as to send me a reprint? I am particularly interested in the age of halibut.

Dr. C. McLean Fraser, of Nanaimo Station, suggested your name to me.

Sincerely,



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF FISHERIES  
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 3, 1914

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt,  
Fisheries Str. Albatross,  
Vallejo, Calif.

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

In reply to your letter of January 21, you are advised that Miss Rathbun called on me a few days ago and expressed the entire willingness of the Museum to defer calling for your services until such time as the forthcoming investigations of the Albatross could be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Miss Rathbun informed me that she would write to you to that effect, and I have no doubt that you have already received her letter and fully understand the Museum's attitude. I believe that when you reach the field and come to fully understand the conditions, it will be apparent to you that the halibut investigations will not be concluded before September at the earliest, and that they may reach into the beginning of October.

The results of the reconnoissance in Alaska were so unsatisfactory, and they have been so severely criticised by the practical men for whose information they were intended, that it is quite apparent that if we desire to do anything of economic value, it will be necessary to carry the inquiry over practically the entire fishing season, so as to make

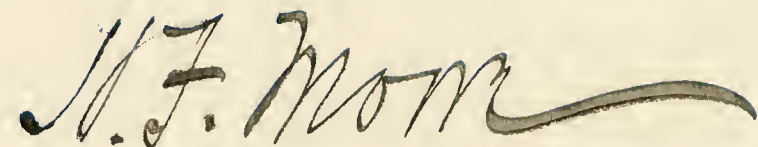


it of a character which will furnish definite and specific information, which in some measure would be, in effect, a rough census of the halibut population of the banks.

I am exceedingly anxious that you should conduct this work, as I believe that your understanding of the practical conditions involved is such that it will be done properly.

I trust that Miss Rathbun's communication was of such a character as will relieve you of any reluctance to stay with the work until it is completed.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. F. Mott", with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Assistant in Charge  
Scientific Inquiry.



PORTLAND PRESS CLUB  
PORTLAND, OREGON

October 16, 1914

Mr. Waldo L. Schmitt,  
Seattle, Wn.

Dear Sir:

The catches of halibut of the  
"Decorah" off the Oregon coast this year  
are as follows:

May	10,	1914	4500 lbs.	Halibut
"	28,	"	13700	"
June	16,	"	22800	"
July	6,	"	32500	"
"	22,	"	21000	"
Aug.	10,	"	14000	"

The above was landed at Portland  
the catches landed at Seattle you say you  
have already.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Reid,  
Secretary